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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making and maintenance of a squirrel-free zone around the cities of California on San Francisco Bay 9,220 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended November 18, 1911.

During the same period 10,360 acres of land in San Joaquin County and 7,740 acres in Stanislaus County were covered with poison for the purpose of eradicating plague foci.

RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908....	Oct. 23, 1908....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911....	Dec. 1, 1908....	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 27, 1907....	None.....	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908....	do.....	Aug. 21, 1908....	1 squirrel.
Counties—				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley). ¹	Sept. 26, 1909....	Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.	Oct. 9, 1911....	114 squirrels and 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1911....	None.....	Sept. 23, 1911....	364 squirrels.
Merced.....	None.....	do.....	July 13, 1911....	5 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	Aug. 6, 1911....	Do.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910....	do.....	June 8, 1911....	22 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 13, 1911....	do.....	Aug. 26, 1911....	18 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	None.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910....	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910....	23 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None.....	do.....	May 17, 1910....	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	June 2, 1911....	13 squirrels.
Washington:				
City—				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907....	Sept. 21, 1911....	None.....	25 rats.

RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
San Francisco.....	Nov. 18	13	¹ 1,714	1,262
Oakland.....	do.....	15	² 652	444
Berkeley.....	do.....	do.....	³ 162	93
Fresno.....	do.....	do.....	⁴ 51	51
Counties—					
Fresno.....	do.....	do.....	⁵ 15	15
Santa Clara.....	do.....	do.....	⁶ 77	77
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	⁷ 43	43
Washington:					
City—					
Seattle.....	do.....	do.....	1,131	950

¹ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 905; *Mus rattus*, 225; *Mus alexandrinus*, 217; *Mus musculus*, 367.

² Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 554; *Mus rattus*, 97.

³ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 199; *Mus musculus*, 63.

⁴ Identified: *Mus alexandrinus*, 51.

⁵ Identified: *Mus musculus*, 15.

⁶ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 75; *Mus musculus*, 2.

⁷ Identified: *Mus alexandrinus*, 41; *Mus musculus*, 2.

SQUIRRELS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Week ended—	Shot or trapped.	Found dead.	Exam-ined.	Found infected.
California:					
Counties—					
Alameda.....	Nov. 18, 1911		144	144	
Kern.....	do.	10		10	
Merced.....	do.	147		147	
Fresno.....	do.	15		15	
San Benito.....	do.	86		86	
San Joaquin.....	do.	82		82	
Stanislaus.....	do.	125		125	
Total.....		465	144	609	

OTHER ANIMALS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED.

Places.	Week ended—	Animals collected.	Exam-ined.	Found infected.
California:				
Counties—				
Fresno.....	Nov. 18, 1911	1 rabbit.....	1	
Kern.....	do.	1 weasel.....	1	
Do.....	do.	1 gopher.....	1	
Merced.....	do.	2 rabbits.....	2	
San Joaquin.....	do.	11 rabbits.....	11	
Stanislaus.....	do.	4 rabbits.....	4	
Total.....			20	

SMALLPOX IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the following tables the States indicated by an asterisk are those from which reports of smallpox are received only from certain city, and in some cases county, boards of health. In these States, therefore, the recorded cases and deaths should not be taken as showing the general prevalence of the disease. In the States not marked by an asterisk the reports are received monthly from the State boards of health and include all cases reported throughout the State:

REPORTS RECEIVED DURING WEEK ENDED DEC. 8, 1911.

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
California:				
Counties—				
Fresno.....	Oct 1-31.....	6		
Los Angeles.....	do.....	1		
Marin.....	do.....	1		
San Bernardino.....	do.....	1		
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	1		
Siskiyou.....	do.....	1		
Total for State.....		11		
*Missouri:				
Kansas City.....	Oct. 1-31.....	1	1	
*Rhode Island:				
Providence.....	Nov. 13-19.....	1		
South Dakota:				
Counties—				
Clay.....	Oct. 1-31.....	2		
Lawrence.....	do.....	2		
Total for State.....		4		